

March 2, 1984

LB 1058

Each state must adopt or pass the same compact. The wording has to be exactly the same and with this amendment changes this compact. So if we do not get the committee amendments off, why then we have no use for the bill so I would urge you to vote red on the committee amendment and Senator Haberman isn't here at the present time but he has agreed to this and I think most of the members of the Ag Committee has agreed to strike the committee amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is the adoption of the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 0 ayes, 19 nays on the motion to adopt the committee amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The committee amendments are rejected. Now back to the bill. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, this bill, LB 1058, would authorize the Governor on behalf of the State of Nebraska to enter into a compact with the states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri to promote commercial navigation on the Missouri River. This would be accomplished through a concerted effort of these states to study, promote, and develop barge traffic on the Missouri River. LB 1058 sets up the procedures for the administration of the compact and for the collection and correlation of information by appropriate state officials. This would be a four state compact. At the present time I am working with the other states and the State of Kansas has a bill in the House and Senate at the present time and it has the exact wording as our compact. Missouri and Iowa have introduced legislation and they are expected to pass it this session. Why do we need a compact? This four state compact would carry a lot more clout. I believe that we will be able to achieve some of the goals more easily. What are these goals? Number one, to provide for the most efficient use of the waters of the Missouri River; encourage the use of more barges on the river, and the reason we want more barges on the river is to haul grain, tallow, and other commodities down the river, and to haul molasses and fertilizers and other commodities